

WORLD OF THE LITTLE PEOPLE

Short Stories and Anecdotes for the Rising Generation.

Bright and Witty Things Said Of and About Them--Pleasant and Entertaining Reading.

Johnny is a chubby-faced youngster who, for the past six years, has been the light of a household. Johnny has a keen sense of humor, but his occasional pranks have not always met with the appreciation on the part of his mother to which he thought they were entitled. Johnny had been properly trained, and perhaps over-trained by his fond parents, and with the perversity of children, has developed a strong prejudice against saying the little prayer his mother had taught him to repeat before retiring.

Several weeks ago the little fellow made a visit to his grandparents in the country. He was led away at bedtime by his grandfather, who had instructions from home concerning the evening devotions.

But grandpa is very deaf, and white-robed Johnny decided to introduce a change in the usual programme, so, as he knelt by the bed, he began: "Come, little boy, come, come blow up your horn; the sheep's in the window, the cow's in the corn," and repeated to the end that familiar jingle of the nursery.

"That's a good boy, Johnny," said the old man, as he tucked him into bed, "always say your prayers, and you will grow up a good man," and Johnny winked the other eye as he chuckled over his little joke.

Little Nut People.
Old Mrs. Chestnut once lived in a burr. Paired and lived with the softest of fur, Jack Frost split it wide with his keen silver knife.

And tumbled her out at the risk of her life.

Here is Tom Almond, a grandee from Spain, some rats from Malaga came in his train. He has a twin brother a shade or two leaner. When both come together we shout, "Phil-opena!"

Little Miss Peanut, from North Carolina, she's not a rattle, but not a nut is finer. Sometimes she is roasted and burnt to a cinder. In Georgia they call her Miss Goober or Pin-dler.

Little Miss Hazelnut, in her best bonnet, is lively enough to put in a sonnet; And young Mr. Filbert has journeyed from Kent.

To ask her to marry him soon after Lent.

This is old Hickory; look at him well: A general was named for him, so he's heard tell. Take care how you hit him; he sometimes hits back.

This old old chap is a hard nut to crack.

Dear Little Chickadee, modest and neat, isn't she cunning and isn't she sweet? Her skin is as smooth as a little boy's chin, And the squirrels all chatter of Miss Chickadee.

Toads and Diamonds.
1. There was once a widow with two daughters, the elder (her favorite) cross and ugly; the younger, beautiful and amiable. She did the housework and went to the well to fetch water as you see.

2. On her way home one day an old woman begged for some water from her pitcher. When she had drunk enough, she said: "I am a fairy and will reward your kind action. Every time you speak a precious stone shall fall from your mouth."

3. As soon as she had drunk, her mother began to scold her for loitering; but directly she spoke, diamonds dropped from her mouth, and she told them how this came about.

4. Then the mother sent the other daughter to the well, but she was accosted by the fairy in the shape of a richly dressed lady, which so delighted the rude girl that she said: "I'm not your servant; fetch the water yourself."

5. "You are not polite," said the Fairy, "and I will punish you by making toads and snakes come out of your mouth whenever you speak." When she got home and opened her mouth, the toads and snakes tumbled out into such numbers that her mother was horror-stricken.

6. And thinking her younger daughter had deceived her, she fell upon her, and beat her out of the house.

7. Then she reached a wood, where she sat down and wept bitterly.

8. A young prince returned from hunting, and struck with her beauty and the diamonds which fell from her lips, when she had told him her story, he asked her to be his wife, and she liked him well enough to say, "Yes." So they were married, and lived happy ever afterwards.

Tommy and Baby.
I can never scream and tumble
In the house, nor ever
I can never pound the table
Nor the wall,
Never jump up in the window,
Yell and yell,
Mamma says we have a treasure,
Pick and choose,
But I cannot see its value,
Not at all,
I am not allowed to hold it,
I'll not fall,
I am not allowed to squeeze it,
I'll not fall,
Papa says it's a brother,
Not a doll,
But to call such things a "people"
—Isn't that gall!

ANNE MARIA.

Happy Ending of a Circus Adventure.

Anne Maria was washing the old blue china. If there was any one task that she despised more than another, this was the one. But whether she liked it or not, three times a week she had to clamber upon a stepladder, take down all the curious old jugs and plates and cups from their place in the teakwood cabinet, wash them carefully, dry them and put them back.

This china was the delight of Miss Mifflon's heart. Her grandmother, several generations removed, brought it over in the Mayflower. Miss Mifflon said, and she never tired of showing it to her friends, incidentally referring to her Puritan lineage at the same time.

Anne Maria had to wash and wipe very carefully lest she should break one of the priceless plates or crack a cup.

She knew very well what would happen to her in a case of that sort, so she always handled them with great fear.

This morning her task seemed especially hard for she could faintly hear the notes of a drum in the distance and she could see the village children hurrying along to the circus.

Yes, there was a circus in town that day. Anne Maria knew all about it from the posters on the fences.

She knew too that Sig. Tomaso Bernardo, the world-renowned trapeze performer, was with the show.

Anne Maria knew Sig. Tomaso—Tom Smith he was in private life—very well, for once Anne Maria had traveled with a circus herself.

Her father had been a clever contortionist and her mother a daring bareback rider, and in the same circus with which they traveled was Tom Smith, the trapeze performer. Anne Maria had even appeared in public, being billed as Miss Pepita, and carried aloft on her mother's arm as she rode standing on Whiteface's back.

But that was eight years ago. One day while riding her mother was thrown and killed instantly. Anne Maria's father was in the dressing room at the time, but he came out just as they were carrying the dead woman out of the ring.

Young as she was, Anne Maria never forgot the terrible look on his face as he fell down in a terrible fit, crying and frothing at the mouth.

Three days later he, too, was dead and Anne Maria was an orphan in the poor-house.

There Miss Mifflon found her and brought her home to a slavery at the poor, old-fashioned house.

The name Pepita, which had sounded like a caress when her mother said it, was changed for Anne Maria, a name which

you are mity careless where he lies, he come gum dasted near making me swallow my cud."

Not in That Class.
It happened at the Horden school. A reporter had been in the kindergarten to see the exercises and was leaving the building, when he saw a little tot of a girl on the steps. She was very pretty, so the reporter, thinking to say the proper thing, remarked:

"Hello, little girl; waiting for Santa Claus?"

The little girl looked at him as if she felt sorry for him, and said shortly:

"There's go such thing as Santa Claus."

"No such thing? Why, who told you that?"

A look of supreme contempt spread over the pretty little face, and with a haughty little air she said:

"I ain't in the kindergarten; I'm in the first reader."

The reporter took off his hat, apologized, and fled.

Her Modest Pupil.
The Teacher—There is one of my brightest boys sitting over there on that rock writing, while his companions are wasting their time in idle play. No doubt he is writing his lessons on a fly to-morrow.

Here, Jimmy, let me see what you are writing.

Jimmy—No'm; I don't want to.

"Ah, see his modesty. Come, I want to read it."

This is what she read:

"Please excuse my son James from school to-day, as he is needed at home."

FROM HOTEL DELLONE.
Mr. C. W. Reed, proprietor of the Hotel Dellone, Omaha, one of the finest new and modern hotels in the west, says of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy: "We have used it in our family for years with the most satisfactory result, especially for our children, for colds and croup. It can be depended upon; besides it is pleasant to take and seems to be free from chloroform and the oily substances, put into many cough mixtures. 50 cent and \$1 bottles for sale by Z. C. M. I. drug department."

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